

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

SUBJECT Construction of Underground Buildings in DATE DISTR.
Kosice

~~2~~1 MAY 1958

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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a reproduction of a map section of the Kosice area on which are pinpointed the locations of underground buildings constructed since 1949. The buildings are as follows:

ENCLOSURE ON ROUTING

1. Underground post office, under construction from 1952 to 1957, the work being carried out by Pozemne Stavby, Branch 01, Kosice; the construction had a secret designation, 033 Kosice, and it was directed by the architect Lastovecky (fnu). The post office is in the southern part of the town, near the old airfield, which is no longer in use, and west of the Kosice - Barca road, in the eastern slope of Obeseny vrch (hill), and to the south of Holubiho ulice, which runs along the north end of the cemetery to join the Kosice - Moldava road. The building, which is at the point where Holubiho ulice joins Barcanska ulice is 30 x 20 m., and has three floors, built of ferro-concrete, and camouflaged as a new swimming pool, the pool itself being next to it. During the construction, the builders came upon a large underground spring to the north of the building, which had to be drained away. The work of installation was carried out in 1957 by a group of fitters from the Kosice telegraph office on the corner of Rumanova and Komenskeho ulice, and a telephone switchboard, cables, and electrical and other equipment were put in. The building is to serve as an underground communication center for long-distance connections between the U.S.S.R. and Hungary and Czechoslovakia and Hungary, and will probably include an amplifying station and other requisites for the purpose. It is supposed to have been built to withstand atomic explosions. A similar installation has been erected in Roznava, likewise designated Construction 033, and constructed by Pozemne Stavby, Kosice.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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2. Atomic shelter for the railroad management (CSD Reditelstvi) at Kosice, begun in 1952, in the courtyard of the management building in Kosice, and carried out by a special firm, Zeleznicni Stavby (Railroad Construction), Kosice, with about 30 workers. The work was finished in 1954. The railroad management building is square, and has five-stories, in the center of the town on Hviezdoslavova (formerly Masarykova) ulice with Tabakova ulice on the north side, and Gottwaldova (formerly Rasinova) ulice to the east. The shelter, in the courtyard of the building, is square, 60 x 60 m. with two floors, ferro-concrete, with the maximum reinforcement, and walls 1 m. and roof 1.5 m. thick; it is sunk about 3 to 3.5 m. in the ground and rises 2 - 2.5 m. above ground level. In 1954/55 a telephone cable was laid for it, along Hviezdoslavova ulice to the station and another along Leninova ulice to the KNOV (sic) building; an electric cable was laid to the power station on Mlynsky Nahon. The shelter is probably also intended for use by the Regional Military HQ, a building on the corner of Hviezdoslavova ulice and Stalinovo Namesti as the ground between these buildings was dug up in 1955 and an approach tunnel was probably built.
3. Underground hospital, begun in 1953, near the Faculty hospital; a three-story bunker, construction of which was carried out by Pozemne Stavby, Branch 01, under the management of architect Spakovsky (fnu); it was finished in 1955. The Faculty hospital is an old hospital in the southern part of the town between the Roznava and the Barca roads. The underground bunker is in the northern half of the hospital complex in open ground between the throat ward and the urology ward. It is large enough for four tennis courts to be laid out on the roof, which is 1.5 m. above ground level. The courts are for camouflage purposes. The structure was originally planned to be no higher than ground level, but had to be raised 1.5 m. because of drainage problems. In the event of war it is to be used as an atomic shelter for the most important part of the Faculty hospital, and is built to withstand atomic explosions.
4. Underground shelter at Crmel, begun in 1953, under the management of building inspector Drozd (fnu), and finished in 1955; it was officially stated to be a new cold storage installation for the Kosice meat combine, and is in the northern part of the town on the west side of Crmelska trida and Crmelsky potok (stream), a short distance south of the last stop on tram route No. 4. To the north, on the east side of Crmelska trida is an inn called Baranka; the shelter extends westwards to the wooded slope of Crmel hill. It is the standard type of shelter, like those built in Presov and for the military HQ in Margecany. There are two entrances, concrete corridors, towards Crmelsky potok 20 m. long, and an emergency exit in the form of a shaft, inside the wood, and closed with a concrete slab 60 x 60 cm; it is near the road through the wood and is camouflaged as some kind of sewer; the shelter is equipped with electric light from its own diesel generator and water from its own well. A gas trunk (sic) and diesel engine were overlooked when the shelter was built and these were added in 1957. In spite of the cold storage pretext, the shelter is actually to be used for the military HQ.
5. Municipal atomic shelter, built by the Municipal Building Combine, Kosice, and financed by the Central National Committee; it was built in 1952/53, and is on the west side of Leninova ulice opposite the theater, under the commercial premises of the former Hudak firm of hatters. The shelter is probably for public use and that of the National Committee nearby, on the corner of Kovacska and Leninova ulice and for office workers in the center of the town.

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